Curriculum Handbook *for* Parents

2002–2003

Catholic School Version

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Alberta
LEARNING

This document, along with most Alberta Learning documents, can be found on the Web site at **http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca**.

Parent documents referenced in this handbook, along with most Alberta Learning documents, are available for purchase from:

Learning Resources Centre
12360 – 142 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5L 4X9
Telephone: 780–427–5775
Fax: 780–422–9750
Internet: http://www.lrc.learning.gov.ab.ca

Telephone numbers of branches referred to in this handbook can be reached, toll free inside Alberta, by dialing 310–0000.

Aboriginal Services Branch
Telephone: 780–415–9300
Fax: 780–415–9306
E-mail: asb@gov.ab.ca

Curriculum Branch
Telephone: 780–427–2984
Fax: 780–422–3745
E-mail: curric.contact@learning.gov.ab.ca

French Language Services Branch
Telephone: 780–427–2940
Fax: 780–422–1947
E-mail: LSB@learning.gov.ab.ca

Learner Assessment Branch
Telephone: 780–427–0010
Fax: 780–422–4200
E-mail: assess.contact@learning.gov.ab.ca

Learning and Teaching Resources Branch
Telephone: 780–427–2984
Fax: 780–422–0576
E-mail: curric.contact@learning.gov.ab.ca

Learning Technologies Branch
Telephone: 780–674–5350
Fax: 780–674–6561
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Special Programs Branch
Telephone: 780–422–6326
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Alberta Learning gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the Alberta Home and School Councils' Association in facilitating parent input into this Curriculum Handbook.

Curriculum Handbook *for* Parents

2002–2003

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

This Curriculum Handbook provides parents with information about senior high school curriculum. It includes:

- selected learning outcomes for each subject area from the provincial curriculum
- links to the Alberta Learning Web site where more information can be found
- information on personal and career development transitions into work and further learning
- a feedback form.

Table of
Contents

Message from the Minister of Learning iii
Letter from Archbishop Thomas Collins iv
Information for Parents v
Helping Your Child at Home v
Schooling in Alberta vi
Aboriginal Education vii
Supports for Learning vii
Guidance and Counselling vii
English as a Second Language viii
Special Needs viii
Distance Learning viii
Integrated Occupational Program (IOP) ix
Assessment x
Provincial Diploma Examinations x
School Councils xi
School Fundraising and Fees xi
Completing Senior High School xii
Overview of Senior High School 1
Religious Education 3
Required Courses/Programs 6
English Language Arts 6
Mathematics 10
Science 15
Social Studies 19
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) 22
Career and Life Management (CALM) 23
Physical Education 10 24
Optional Courses/Programs 25
Career and Technology Studies (CTS) 25
Fine Arts 26
Physical Education 20–30 29
Languages Other than English 29
Off-campus Education 34
Locally Developed Courses 35
Educational Experiences Outside of Regular School Programs ... 35
Transitions from Senior High School into Work and Further Learning 36
Post-secondary Learning 37
Frequently Asked Questions 39
Feedback Form 41

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Message from the Minister of Learning

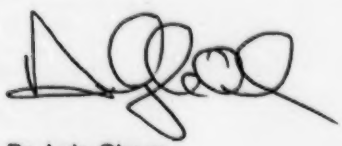
Alberta has one of the best education systems in the world. Our success is due to many factors including an excellent curriculum, choice on the type of education that will best meet students' needs, and innovative and quality learning opportunities. All these things ensure that Alberta students have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to be self-reliant, responsible, caring and contributing members of society.

Senior high school is an important time in a young person's life. It is a time when students begin to make decisions about their future. The choices they make in the types of courses they want to take will be important in terms of preparing for future pathways in post-secondary education and careers. As a parent, you play a vital role in helping determine future direction and ensuring that course selection maximizes smooth transitions and opportunities for future pathways.

In order to help parents and students discuss options, Alberta Learning has published the *Curriculum Handbook for Parents: Senior High School.* We are excited that this year's edition was redesigned with input from parents. The *Handbook* has been modified to highlight courses available in senior high school in a user-friendly format.

In addition to your discussions with your son or daughter about options, I encourage you to continue to work closely with his or her teachers who can provide further valuable information and guidance. I also hope this resource helps foster a discussion that will create an understanding that senior high school is not the end of an education, but a stepping-stone to future learning, whether it be at college, university or technical school; through apprenticeship training; or in the world of work.

Alberta students are our future. It is vital that all education partners, including parents, teachers, principals, superintendents, trustees and other members of our community, work collaboratively to ensure we continually meet the needs of students in our ever-changing world. Together, we can ensure that every student has a solid foundation from which to learn, grow and succeed.



Dr. Lyle Oberg
Minister of Learning

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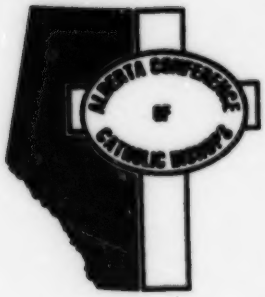

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops of Alberta, I welcome this opportunity to affirm you in your role as parents in the education of your children and wish to express my appreciation to the Government of Alberta and Alberta Learning for this 'Curriculum Handbook for Parents'.

The Church has always recognized with confidence that you, parents, are the first and primary educators of your children, especially with regards to education in the faith. This is a noble, yet, challenging calling that is rightfully yours. Today, therefore, because of the many diverse pressures and influences on our children, your role is vital in working with our schools to continue to provide the best possible education for our children. To those of you who have entrusted your children to a Catholic school be assured that it is with great respect for these facts that we support you in your role. I encourage you to work closely with our Catholic schools by joining your local school councils or parent groups. Be a strong voice for the Catholic identity of schools. In this regard, you will share in a concrete and invaluable way in the central mission of the Church which is to proclaim Jesus and his Gospel in the world today and, in so doing, hand on our faith to our children.

I commend Alberta Learning for providing parents with this practical Curriculum Handbook. It is a clear presentation of what parents can expect of our Alberta schools, Public and Catholic, and by its very existence also acknowledges how important you are as parents in your children's education. In it, you will find a comprehensive presentation of the content and expectations of the Religious Education Program approved by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. It reflects the essential character of Catholic schools as communities of learning.

+ Thomas Collins

Thomas Collins
Archbishop of Edmonton
President, Alberta Conference of Catholic Bishops

8421 – 101 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6A 0L1 ♦ Tel.: (780) 469–1010 ♦ Fax: (780) 465–3003

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Information for Parents

Web site links for further information are provided throughout the handbook.

Students learn in a variety of environments—in their homes, schools and communities. Parents, teachers and community members form a partnership to assist this learning.

When parents know what children are studying at school, they can provide better home support for their children's learning.

Parents can access information about the curriculum and learning resources in a number of ways:

- They can communicate with teachers or the school.
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/parent.asp — **Curriculum Handbooks** contain selected outcomes for each subject area from the Alberta programs of study. They provide a more detailed picture of each year. This Curriculum Handbook is one of a set from Kindergarten to senior high school produced in general and Catholic versions, and in French. They are available on the Alberta Learning Web site or for purchase from the Learning Resources Centre (LRC).
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/parent.asp — **Curriculum Summaries** for each grade level provide a brief overview of each year. The summaries are available on the Alberta Learning Web site.
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/ — **Alberta Programs of Study** contain learning outcomes for each subject area from Kindergarten to Grade 12. They are available on the Alberta Learning Web site or for purchase from the LRC.
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/lrdb — The Authorized Resources Database on the Alberta Learning Web site lists **Alberta authorized student and teacher resources**, most of which are available for purchase from the LRC.
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca — The **Alberta Learning Web site** contains information on learning from the early years to adulthood.

Helping Your Child at Home

Here are some important pointers for you to help your child learn.

- Be positive and encouraging in your approach to learning. It will help your child feel confident and enthusiastic about success.
- Talk to your child about schoolwork, and help with homework when you can.
- Help your child set realistic goals, and discuss progress in an encouraging way.
- Connect your child's schoolwork with everyday life, and use these opportunities for problem solving in everyday situations.
- Keep in touch with teachers about your child's progress, including successes and achievements, not just concerns.

The following resources may help you. Check your child's school for availability.

- *Make School Work for You*—Helping junior and senior high school students become more successful learners.
- http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/parents/mathprbk.pdf — *Working Together in Mathematics Education*—Ways parents can support student learning in mathematics.
- http://www.learnalberta.ca — *LearnAlberta.ca* Web site—Online multimedia learning resources that directly relate to the Alberta programs of study.
- http://www.2learn.ca/ — *TELUS 2Learn* Web site—An education–business partnership that provides Internet inservice, support and information for Alberta teachers, students and parents.

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Schooling in Alberta

School provides students with a broad educational program that helps them:

- develop knowledge, skills and attitudes in a variety of subject areas
- demonstrate critical and creative thinking skills in problem solving and decision making
- demonstrate competence in using information technologies
- know how to learn and work independently and as part of a team
- develop desirable personal characteristics and the ability to make ethical decisions
- demonstrate initiative, leadership, flexibility and persistence
- have the desire and realize the need for lifelong learning.

Schools also prepare students to make positive contributions to society through communities, the workplace and/or post-secondary studies.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationguide/default.asp

The *Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12*, available on the Alberta Learning Web site or for purchase from the LRC, provides general information about Kindergarten to Grade 12 schooling.

In Alberta, a **provincial curriculum** describes what students are expected to know and be able to do in each subject at each grade level. The provincial curriculum is organized into **programs of study**, which are developed by Alberta Learning in consultation with teachers, administrators, parents, representatives from post-secondary institutions, and professional and community groups.

Changes in curriculum are made to ensure that students across the province have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to meet the demands of a complex and ever-changing world. Revisions may be minor, such as updating a resource list, or they may be major, when the needs of students and society change as new knowledge becomes available. Included in any major revision process is a review of learning and teaching resources and professional development needs of teachers.

The Catholic Schools of Alberta offer students the opportunity to receive an education within the context of the Catholic culture. In addition to the Religious Studies curriculum, Catholic values and attitudes permeate every aspect of the school life: all classroom instruction, extracurricular programs and school celebrations.

Teachers make a number of decisions when planning for classroom instruction. Within any group of students, there is a range of individual differences. Teachers use the learning outcomes of the programs of study to meet the needs and interests of their students and to make connections across subject areas. They choose resources, equipment and materials to help students achieve the learning outcomes. Teaching methods and schedules vary from school to school and from class to class to meet the diverse learning needs of students.

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Alberta Learning assists teachers by reviewing and selecting the best possible resources, such as textbooks, videotapes and computer software, for all subject areas. Authorization of resources by Alberta Learning indicates that the resources meet high standards and can help students achieve the learning outcomes. Teachers can choose other resources, as long as they follow school board policy.

http://www.lrc.learning.gov.ab.ca

Authorized resources are available for purchase from the LRC.

Aboriginal Education

Aboriginal peoples throughout the province have indicated that they want their children to complete regular school requirements and achieve the same standards as set for all students in Alberta.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/aborigin/default.asp

The term "Aboriginal" refers to First Nations, Métis and Inuit. To support the learning of Aboriginal students, schools are encouraged to use learning resources that give attention to Aboriginal heritage perspectives. In addition, all students in Alberta should understand and be aware of Aboriginal cultures, lifestyles and heritage. Student and teacher resources have been developed by Alberta Learning to assist teachers.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/specialneeds/teacherresourcescat.pdf

Both provincially and locally authorized Blackfoot and Cree language and culture courses are offered in the province.

As well, *A Handbook for Aboriginal Parents of Children with Special Needs* provides information to assist Aboriginal parents in working with schools to meet the special needs of their children. This resource is available for purchase from the LRC.

Our Treasured Children is a videotape that complements *A Handbook for Aboriginal Parents of Children with Special Needs*. It highlights intergenerational stories from members of the Aboriginal community. The videotape is available for purchase from the LRC.

Supports for Learning

In every classroom and every school, students have individual needs. Teachers ensure that all students are involved in activities that help them build on their own level of learning.

Alberta students learn in a variety of ways—in schools, in the community, in small and large groups, and independently. Schools, supported by Alberta Learning, provide a variety of programs and services.

Guidance and Counselling

Schools and school jurisdictions offer a comprehensive guidance and counselling program for helping individual students meet their growth and developmental needs—educational, personal, social and career. This collaborative program involves the school counsellor and other school staff and is based on a close partnership among school, home and community. Parents are encouraged to consult with school counselling staff regarding the needs of their children.

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English as a Second Language

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/ESL/default.asp

Many children born in Canada have a first language other than English, and many students move here from non-English speaking countries. Schools provide additional assistance for English as a Second Language (ESL) students in Grade 1 to Grade 12. This helps them acquire sufficient fluency in English so they can integrate into the regular classroom as quickly as possible.

Special Needs

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/specialneeds/

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/educationguide/spec-ed/partners/intro.asp

School boards are required to provide each resident student with an education program, including access to special education programs. The following resources provide additional information. Check your child's school for availability.

- *Partners During Changing Times*—Information for parents of children with special needs
- *Programming for Students with Special Needs*—A series of resources containing information to help teachers better meet the needs of students, such as students who are gifted and talented, and those with learning disabilities, emotional disorders and/or mental illness

Distance Learning

http://www.lrc.learning.gov.ab.ca

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/ltb/400/courses.html

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/ltb/400/eproduct.html

The Learning Technologies Branch (LTB) develops print materials and materials for online learning.

- For information about purchasing distance learning materials, contact the LRC.
- For a listing of all distance learning courses available for purchase or study, go to the LTB Courses Web page.
- To see what electronic products are available, visit the Electronic Products Web page.
- For information about registering in a distance learning course, contact a distance learning provider, such as the Alberta Distance Learning Centre.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/fsl/team.asp

The French Language Services Branch develops distance learning courses for French language instruction. For courses available in French, contact the French Language Services Branch.

http://www.adlc.ca/home/

The Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC) provides distance learning courses and programs to students throughout the province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories. It also serves a small number of Alberta students who are temporarily living in other provinces and countries. Students have the option of submitting assignments over the Internet. The ADLC also operates a virtual school.

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Integrated Occupational Program (IOP)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/iop/default.asp

The Integrated Occupational Program (IOP) is a program of choice that begins in Grade 8, although students may also enter in grades 9, 10 or 11, and continues through Grade 12. Students who successfully complete the IOP earn a Certificate of Achievement.

IOP is designed for students whose learning styles, abilities and needs are best met through an integrated, real-life approach to teaching and learning. The courses provide functional and practical hands-on learning experiences.

IOP consists of core subjects and an occupational component. Community partnerships are integral to all IOP courses.

Core subjects include:

- English Language Arts 8, 9, 16, 26, 36
- Mathematics 8, 9, 16, 26
- Science 8, 9, 16, 26
- Social Studies 8, 9, 16, 26

Occupational Component

- Practical Arts 8, 9
- Occupations 16, 26, 36

Practical Arts Grades 8 and 9 consist of Business Education, Personal and Public Services, and Technical/Occupational courses. Occupations 16, 26 and 36 courses are organized into eight occupational clusters: agribusiness, business and office operations, construction and fabrication, creative arts, natural resources, personal and public services, tourism and hospitality, and transportation.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/iop/IOPmanual.pdf

For more information, refer to the *Integrated Occupational Program Information Manual for Administrators, Counsellors and Teachers*, 1994. The manual is available on the Alberta Learning Web site or for purchase from the LRC.

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Assessment

Provincial Diploma Examinations

As well as being assessed by their teachers, students registered in the following courses are required to write diploma examinations:

Applied Mathematics 30
Biology 30
Chemistry 30
English Language Arts 30
English Language Arts 33
Français 30 (francophone)
French Language Arts 30
Mathematics 33
Physics 30
Pure Mathematics 30
Science 30
Social Studies 30
Social Studies 33

To obtain credit in any of these courses, a student must write the appropriate diploma examination and obtain a final course mark of 50% or higher. The final mark is the average of the school-awarded mark and the diploma examination mark.

Examinations are written at all senior high schools offering the diploma examination courses. Following the examination period, a student receives a Diploma Examination Results Statement showing the most recent school-awarded mark, the current diploma examination mark, and the final mark for each course.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/testing/default.asp

Information about diploma examinations is available at all senior high schools. As well, information is available on the Alberta Learning Web site. This site includes the *General Information Bulletin, Diploma Examinations Program*, which provides the examination schedules as well as the directives related to the diploma examinations.

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School Councils

http://www.ahsca.ab.ca

Schools, parents and communities all play an important role in education. School councils are designed to give parents, students, teachers and other community members meaningful involvement in decisions about policies, programs and services and the allocation of funds to support them within their schools. Each school council determines its own level of involvement, depending on local needs. Parents can get more information on how to get involved by contacting their local school or the Alberta Home and School Councils Association.

School Fundraising and Fees

http://www.asba.ab.ca/advisories/policy-fundraising.pdf

Decisions regarding fundraising are made by the local board or by the school principal in consultation with the school council within policy guidelines established by the school board. In September 2000, the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) developed and provided guidelines to school boards to assist boards in establishing appropriate local policy. The guidelines state fundraising should not be done for core items such as textbooks. Some fundraising is appropriate for things like athletics uniforms, field trips, and other extras that staff and parents want for their schools. Participation in fundraising activities should be voluntary. No student should be excluded from an event or program because the parents did not contribute.

http://www.asba.ab.ca/advisories/policy-fees.pdf

School fees are determined by the local school board or by the principal in consultation with the school council and within policy guidelines established by the board. Local policies can include waiving fees or extended payment allowances where parents are experiencing financial difficulties. In September 2000, the Alberta School Boards Association provided guidelines to school boards to assist them in establishing an appropriate policy. A primary objective is to ensure that fees are not being charged for core items. ASBA also advised boards that parents need to know what the funds will be used for and what will be done with any surplus funds.

Fees may be charged for supplies and materials provided for the student's personal use or consumption; this may include such things as calculators, locker rentals, student planners and computer diskettes. The fees charged are on a cost recovery basis.

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Completing Senior High School

In Alberta, most students take three years, Grade 10 through Grade 12, to complete their senior high school program. Each year, students have access to 1000 hours of instruction. Students are required to remain in school up to the age of 16.

Students may complete senior high school with an Alberta High School Diploma or a Certificate of Achievement.

Students are responsible for checking their credit status to ensure that necessary courses and credits will be completed.

Alberta High School Diploma

To earn an Alberta High School Diploma, students successfully complete certain courses and earn a minimum of 100 credits. They may however, earn more than 100 credits. Having a full program (timetable) in senior high school allows students to explore a wider variety of courses and develop other interests and abilities that may help them in the future.

Of the 100 credits students need to earn a diploma, approximately 50 credits will be earned through courses in core subjects they are required to take: English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education and career and life management. Students will choose additional core and/or optional courses needed to earn the remaining credits.

The graduation requirements for the Alberta High School Diploma are outlined on the following chart. The courses listed indicate the minimum level that students are required to complete to earn a diploma. These requirements are set to ensure students graduate from senior high school with a broad education, but they are not always the same requirements as those needed to enter post-secondary institutions. Students should check with the post-secondary institution of their choice to determine the entrance requirements.

The chart below outlines one way of achieving graduation requirements. Course selection and sequencing may vary for individual students.

Credits	Minimum Alberta High School Diploma Requirements		
15	English Language Arts 10-1/10-2	English Language Arts 20-1/20-2	English Language Arts 30/33
15	Social Studies 10/13	Social Studies 20/23	Social Studies 30/33
10	Applied Mathematics 10, or Pure Mathematics 10, or Mathematics 14, or Mathematics Preparation 10	Applied Mathematics 20, or Pure Mathematics 20, or Mathematics 23/24	
10	Science 10/14	Science 20/24, or Biology 20, or Chemistry 20, or Physics 20	
3	Physical Education 10		
3	CALM		
56	**Total Specified Credits**		
44	**Unspecified Credits**	10 credits must be 30/33 level, in addition to English language arts and social studies. 10 credits must be from fine arts, Physical Education 20/30, second languages, career and technology studies, or locally developed courses.	
100	**Total Credits**		

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Certificate of Achievement

The Integrated Occupational Program (IOP) is a program of choice that begins in Grade 8, although students may also enter in grades 9, 10 or 11, and continues through Grade 12. Students who successfully complete the IOP earn a Certificate of Achievement.

IOP is designed for students whose learning styles, abilities and needs are best met through an integrated, real-life approach to teaching and learning. The courses provide functional and practical, hands-on learning experiences.

Students experiencing success in IOP may transfer to the diploma program. These students must then complete the necessary courses in order to obtain an Alberta High School Diploma. This will vary, depending on the point at which the student transfers.

Eligible Courses and Credits★ for the Certificate of Achievement	
A. IOP CORE Courses and Credits	Alternative Courses and Credits
English Language Arts 16 (3), 26 (3), 36 (3)	A minimum of 10 credits in English Language Arts, including 5 credits in English Language Arts 20-2
Social Studies 16 (3), 26 (3)	Social Studies 13 (5)
Mathematics 16 (3)	Mathematics 26 or Mathematics 14 (5) or Mathematics Preparation 10 (3)
Science 16 (3)	Science 26 or Science 14 (5)
TOTAL 21 CREDITS	TOTAL 25 CREDITS
B. Physical Education 10 (3) Career and Life Management (3)	
C. IOP Occupational Courses • agribusiness • business and office operations • construction and fabrication • creative arts • natural resources • personal and public services • tourism and hospitality • transportation	Grade 10 (16 level)—10 credits recommended Grade 11 (26 level)—20 credits recommended Grade 12 (36 level)—10 credits required
D. Unspecified Credits To meet the minimum credit requirement for the Certificate of Achievement, students must take additional unspecified courses. The number of unspecified credits available will depend upon the student's selection of IOP courses or alternative courses listed in Part A.	

Total Required Credits = 80

★ Numbers in parentheses indicate the credit value of each course.

High School Diplomas, Certificates of Achievement and Transcripts

Learning Information Exchange Services issues the Alberta High School Diploma, the High School Equivalency Diploma or the Certificate of Achievement to students who meet the graduation requirements. A statement of Courses and Marks, containing the entire senior high school record, accompanies the diploma or certificate and is available free to students and schools.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/learning/studentservices/transcripts.asp

For a fee, students may request that an Alberta High School Transcript of Achievement be sent to themselves, an employer or a post-secondary institution. Transcripts may be requested electronically, in person or by telephone. The transcript is produced from the student's Alberta Learning student record. Courses deemed incomplete for any reason are not reported. It is the responsibility of the student to request an updated transcript when additional courses are completed following initial graduation, or as required.

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Overview of Senior High School

The senior high school program is organized into courses of study for *each subject area. Each senior high school course* is worth a specific number of credits. A credit represents course-specific knowledge, skills and attitudes, and is equal to 25 hours of instruction. Higher numbers of credits indicate that more content is covered and more time is spent on that course. Most courses have a 1-credit, 3-credit or 5-credit value.

Each course has a number, which usually designates the grade level as well as the level of difficulty. Some subjects have course sequences available at different levels of difficulty. Students generally take the prerequisite in a course sequence; e.g., Social Studies 10–20–30. They may also transfer between course sequences; e.g., Social Studies 13–10–20–30. Students earn credits in a course if they earn a final course mark of 50% or higher. Diploma examinations are required in certain 30-level courses.

Many senior high schools offer courses in the semester system. Generally, courses in semester one start in September and finish in January. Semester two starts in February and finishes in June. In this system, a school might schedule a 5-credit course daily and a 3-credit course every other day for one semester. Check with individual senior high schools to find out how different courses are scheduled.

The senior high school program includes required and optional courses. Following are some points to consider when planning a senior high school program.

- Some core courses are designed for different purposes and are available in two or more levels of difficulty.
- It is usually necessary to complete courses in a sequence, so students should determine which courses they wish to graduate with, then work back through the prerequisites.
- Students should make sure that they select optional courses that contribute to their career plans; e.g., post-secondary requirements, employment, and/or further study.

In Grade 10 to Grade 12, students study required courses/programs. They also select from a range of optional courses/programs in keeping with career plans and personal interests.

Catholic high schools offer Religious Studies 15–25–35 within all programs. The credits earned from Religious Studies courses may be applied toward an Alberta High School Diploma or a Certificate of Achievement.

The senior high school Alberta programs of study set out general outcomes or topics that provide an overview of the important learnings students accomplish in each course or program. Specific outcomes are included for each general outcome or topic and state in detail the knowledge, skills and attitudes students are working towards achieving.

This handbook contains:

- the general outcomes or topics for courses/programs
- selected specific outcomes for most courses/programs

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- charts for each subject area showing course sequences. Students generally take the prerequisite in a course sequence, although they may transfer between course sequences. Prerequisites in course sequences are shown by solid arrows; recommended transfer routes between course sequences are shown by broken arrows.

The programs of study, which include all the general and specific outcomes, are available on the Alberta Learning Web site or from the LRC.

Required Courses/Programs. *Students take:*					
English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies	Physical Education	Career and Life Management (CALM)
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is integrated throughout English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.					

Optional Courses/Programs. *Students select a variety from:*				
Career and Technology Studies (CTS)	Fine and Performing Arts	Languages Other than English*	Off-campus Programs	Locally Developed Courses

* Students in French immersion programs and bilingual programs in other languages take English language arts as well as language arts in the target language. Students in immersion and bilingual programs also take a number of subjects in the target language.

New courses for the 2002–2003 school year:

- Aboriginal Studies 10–20–30
- Applied Mathematics 30
- Career Internship 10
- Career and Life Management (CALM)
- CTS (Communication Technology and Information Processing)
- English Language Arts 20-1 and 20-2
- Mathematics Preparation 10
- Science 14.

Courses under revision:

- CTS 1-credit courses in computer networking
- Biology 20–30, Chemistry 20–30, Physics 20–30
- English Language Arts 30-1 and 30-2
- Integrated Occupational Program (IOP)
- International Languages—Ukrainian, German, Japanese and Mandarin
- Mathematics 14–24
- Science 24
- Science 10–20–30
- Social Studies.

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Religious Education

Within the context of Catholic high schools, the program of studies in all of its aspects—content, the teaching process, and the total school environment—reflects the values of faith, hope, charity, forgiveness and justice as found in the gospels and the message of Jesus Christ as understood by the Catholic Church.

In Catholic high schools, there are many opportunities for integrating gospel values and nurturing the presence of God in our midst within the curriculum. Teachers will determine where religious values and church teaching can be integrated within each course.

Religious education is an essential and integral part of the life and culture of a Catholic school. Through it, students are invited to develop the knowledge, beliefs, skills, values and attitudes needed to build a relationship with God and community through the person of Jesus Christ. Religious education shares the same goals and objectives set forth for all good education; that is, the growth and development of the whole person in all his or her dimensions—physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual.

Religious Education has four essential characteristics.

It is **Trinitarian**. It recognizes God as the creator of all things who gives us Jesus. It is Jesus who reveals God to us, and in turn reveals God's Spirit, through whom we understand our faith.

It is based on **Sacred Scripture** through which we hear the mystery of God revealed, the call to be in relationship with God and each other, and we learn how to pray.

It is based on the **life experience** of the students through which they are invited to discern signs of God in their daily lives.

It is presented within the tradition of the **Catholic faith** community which, based on Church teachings, sacramental and liturgical life, provides students with experiences of faith, prayer, love and justice.

Religious Studies 15–25–35: Alberta Youth Search for Meaning

This Religious Studies program was written by the Catholic Religious Studies teachers in response to the needs of students in Alberta Catholic high schools today. The program "Alberta Youth Search for Meaning" is approved by the Bishops of Alberta and is in compliance with the teachings of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The curriculum strives to engage students in the search for meaning through three major themes: belonging, believing and relating. The program further addresses the study of specific topics through four "windows of authenticity": truth, goodness, the spiritual, and religious community.

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Religious Studies 15—Belonging

One of the primary needs of young people is to experience a sense of belonging. In seeking to belong, it is important to explore the values of the community so that these values become convictions that we embrace and desire to share with others. This course is intended:

- to help students identify that belonging is a fundamental need
- to recognize the importance of belonging as it relates to Church history
- to realize that belonging to a community demands something of us: a respect for life, living a moral life, and service.

Religious Studies 25—Believing

Young people search to find answers about themselves, others and God. The beliefs that adolescents hold will greatly influence the choices they make in the future. This course is intended:

- to explore how believing is integral to human living
- to study the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and Christian Scriptures (New Testament) as the source of our Judeo-Christian faith
- to recognize the importance of Christ's message in the Gospels and how that message challenges us to bring about the reign of God.

Religious Studies 35—Relating

Humans are relational beings and it is often through our relationships that we find meaning in life. The way that young people relate to the world is often shaped by a variety of sources, some of which are life giving and others which are destructive. Regardless, young people continue to search for ways that will bring them into relationship with self, others and God. This course is intended:

- to assist students in their realization of relating as a fundamental human activity
- to acknowledge the spiritual dimension of human relationships
- to explore how sacraments deepen our relationship with the Creator and how we are called to live out our Christian vocation.

Resource-based Program

Teachers will make use of a variety of approved resource books to assist in the delivery of the program. The Program Outline for each grade provides references to specific texts that can be used to teach a particular objective or topic. Throughout the province, variation in student texts will occur, although the course content is consistent in all Catholic high schools. The Catechism of the Catholic Church is a primary resource for teachers and interpreted for students in a manner appropriate to their age and development. Not everything in the Catechism is incorporated, because, as the Catechism itself points out, what is taught must be adapted to the 'differences of culture, age, spiritual maturity, and social and ecclesial conditions among all those to whom it is addressed.' (#24)

Time Allotment

Each component (RS 15–25–35) of the high school program is designed to be taught in 75 instructional hours. Districts wishing to increase credit offering to 5 credits may do so by including a service component, a retreat experience, and/or by expanding the study of objectives and topics.

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Alternative Delivery of Religion Program

Because it is resource based, this program allows for imaginative and creative opportunities for providing students with a variety of learning experience. Districts may wish to be creative, as well, with scheduling and delivery methods in presenting the program.

The Study of Other Religious Traditions

Accreditation for the high school Religious Studies program is granted by Alberta Learning. An essential criterion for accreditation of locally developed Religious Studies courses is that at least twenty per cent of the program addresses issues that extend beyond the specific religious tradition reflected in the program. Since the Catholic tradition is inclusive and respectful of other religious traditions, it is appropriate that a religion program in Catholic schools attend to the religious experience of other traditions, Christian and otherwise. "Alberta Youth Search for Meaning" addresses the religious traditions other than Catholic in an integrated way.

Assessment and Marking

Religious educators distinguish four different aspects of learning: knowledge of material, critical thinking and interaction with the material, individual acceptance of the material as meaningful, and actual incorporation into one's personal life. Religion teachers strive to achieve all four outcomes, recognizing however, that some lend themselves to evaluation and grading better than others. Teachers will clarify for themselves what it is that they are marking and how they arrive at the grades. They will clearly and explicitly inform the students how they will be graded. Students will be reassured that their grades are not a function of their belief or disbelief, or of their agreement or disagreement with the teacher on controversial questions.

Family Dialogue and Participation

The school, through the Religious Studies program, complements parents in their role as primary and principal educators of their children. At the high school level, home and family continue to play a vitally important role in the faith development of young adults. Within the family, seeds of faith have been planted and continue to be nurtured. Family relationships and daily experiences continue to be major factors in shaping the young adults' values, attitudes and Catholic identity. Regular religious practice and the application of classroom learning to daily life are a critical part of religious formation. The school assists families through a variety of opportunities throughout the years to engage in prayer, liturgy, community service and retreats.

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Required Courses/ Programs

The required courses/programs are the foundation of the senior high school program.

Required Courses/Programs. ***Students take:***					
English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science	Social Studies	Physical Education	Career and Life Management (CALM)
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is integrated throughout English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.					

English Language Arts

View the English language arts subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/english

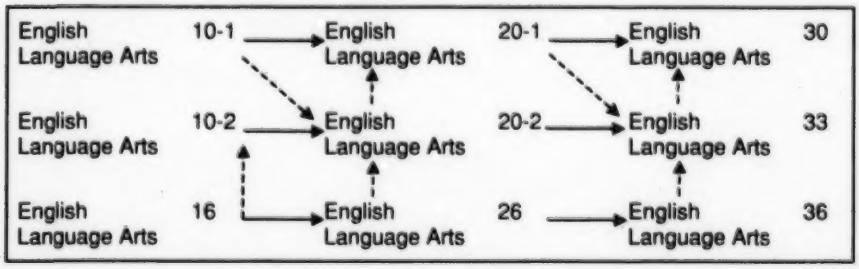
The program of studies for senior high school English language arts is being revised and phased in over three years. As the new program is phased in, the existing program will be phased out. Dates for the provincial implementation of the new program are as follows:

	Grade 10	**Grade 11**	**Grade 12**
Provincial Implementation	September 2001	September 2002	September 2003

The Grade 12 level of the revised program will be piloted in schools throughout the province in the 2002–2003 school year. Some students will be involved in piloting the Grade 12 courses, either English Language Arts 30-1 or English Language Arts 30-2. Students will receive senior high school credits for successful completion of these courses.

Overall, there are three course sequences. The 10-1 and 20-1 levels replace the 10 and 20 levels, and the 10-2 and 20-2 levels replace the 13 and 23 levels.

English Language Arts 16–26–36 will continue to be offered in schools with Integrated Occupational Programming.



In Catholic schools, the students are invited to look further and develop a more coherent understanding of what language means as both a Christian event and a human event. Facility with language provides us with the ability to express ourselves and our faith in words, and to

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communicate, listen, and enter into dialogue and true relationships with others. Higher-level thinking skills of inquiring, reasoning and reporting are recognized as particular gifts from God, bringing with them special responsibilities to use such talents for the good of the community.

English Language Arts 10-1, 10-2, 20-1, 20-2 (5 credits each)

There are two basic aims of senior high school English language arts. One aim is to encourage, in students, an understanding and appreciation of the significance and artistry of literature. A second aim is to enable each student to understand and appreciate language and to use it confidently and competently for a variety of purposes, with a variety of audiences and in a variety of situations for communication, personal satisfaction and learning.

An appreciation of literature and an ability to use language effectively enhance students' opportunities to become responsible, contributing citizens and lifelong learners while experiencing success and fulfillment in life. As strong language users, students will be able to meet Alberta's graduation requirements and will be prepared for entry into post-secondary studies or the workplace. Senior high school students must be prepared to meet evolving literacy demands in Canada and the international community.

From Kindergarten to Grade 12, students are developing knowledge, skills and attitudes in six language arts: Listening and Speaking; Reading and Writing; Viewing and Representing. They work on the following broad outcomes:

- explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences
- comprehend literature and other texts in oral, print, visual and multimedia forms, and respond personally, critically and creatively
- manage ideas and information
- create oral, print, visual and multimedia texts, and enhance the clarity and artistry of communication
- respect, support and collaborate with others.

At the senior high school level, both course sequences:

- maintain high standards to meet graduation requirements
- require that students write a diploma examination upon completion of the Grade 12 level courses
- feature the six language arts—listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing
- encourage student metacognition, student self-assessment, and student collaboration and teamwork
- emphasize correct and effective communication in a variety of formats, including communication for pragmatic purposes
- require that one third of the texts studied are authored by Canadians
- connect with some of the information and communication technology outcomes
- emphasize career development directions
- emphasize the importance of context, including studying purpose, audience and situation, in the student's creation and comprehension of text
- emphasize a definition of "text" that includes oral, print, visual and multimedia forms.

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There are, however, important differences between the two course sequences. In general, differences between the two course sequences correspond to differences in student needs, interests and aspirations.

In terms of student needs, there are different expectations for students in each course. For example, students in ELA 10-2, 20-2 are given additional reading comprehension strategies. This is a direct response to the need of students in these courses for assistance in developing their reading and text study skills. On the other hand, students in ELA 10-1, 20-1 need to develop an understanding of more complex texts; these students have the additional responsibility to "identify and examine ways in which cultural and societal influences are reflected in a variety of Canadian and international texts."

The ELA 10-1; 20-1; 30-1 course sequence provides a more in-depth study of "text" in terms of increased emphasis on textual analysis. The ELA 10-2; 20-2; 30-2 course sequence provides for the study of texts at a variety of different levels of sophistication to meet the needs of a student population that is more diverse in terms of aspirations. Students who aspire to careers that involve the development, production, teaching and study of more complex texts need to register in the ELA 10-1; 20-1; 30-1 course sequence.

English Language Arts 30 (5 credits)

This is a demanding program designed for students with strong reading and communication skills and an interest in literature. Successful completion of English Language Arts 30 is a requirement for entrance to most university and some other post-secondary programs. Students should be able to:

- become actively involved with literature, using effective strategies for appreciation, understanding and critical response
- write effectively, using a variety of techniques and styles to suit the purpose and audience
- speak clearly and effectively in a group and for an audience
- evaluate, use and appreciate visual communication
- listen actively for theme, ideas and details, being aware of the purpose of the communication.

A variety of approaches and resources are used in achieving the goals of each course. The content may be taught through literary genres, such as novels, short stories, essays, poetry and drama—Shakespearean and/or modern or through themes. Resources are selected from an approved list, subject to availability.

Completion of English Language Arts 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

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English Language Arts 33 (5 credits)

This program is designed to help students build confidence as they develop their English language arts skills for school success, future careers and life goals. Successful completion of this program provides access to most certificate/diploma programs in colleges and technical institutions. Students should be able to:

- recognize that the study of literature can fulfill a variety of goals, including reading for information, for understanding, for appreciation and for enjoyment
- write clearly in a manner appropriate to the occasion and grade level, using effective prewriting, researching, organizing and revising strategies
- communicate effectively in groups and for an audience
- understand and evaluate the message and the components that create the message in visual communication
- use the active process of listening to evaluate the spoken message, being aware of the tone, purpose and validity of spoken communication.

Completion of English Language Arts 33 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

English Language Arts 16–26–36 (3 credits each)—Integrated Occupational Program

This program is designed for students who have experienced difficulty with English language arts in the regular program and focuses on the need of the learner to experience success. It assists students in meeting the credit and course requirements of the Certificate of Achievement and parallels materials covered in the previous two programs. Students are provided with opportunities to practise functional communication skills for lifelong application. Students should be able to:

- read for a specific, concrete purpose; e.g., follow directions in the completion of a project
- write for clear, practical communication; e.g., a résumé and covering letter
- speak clearly and confidently; e.g., interviewing skills
- view visual communication with evident understanding of the message; e.g., recognizing main ideas in a film
- engage in active listening; e.g., participate appropriately in a discussion.

It is intended that students should be able to successfully apply their English language arts skills, concepts and attitudes to other subject areas.

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Mathematics

View the mathematics subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/math

The aim of mathematics education is to prepare students to:

- communicate and reason mathematically
- use estimation and mental mathematics, where appropriate
- reason and justify their thinking
- select and use appropriate technologies as tools to solve problems
- connect mathematical ideas to other concepts in mathematics, everyday experiences and to other subjects
- appreciate and value mathematics as an integral component of society.

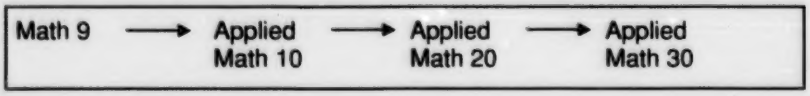
Mathematical skills are recognized in Catholic schools as valuable and necessary tools that serve both personal growth and the world order. Applied to the Christian vocation to build a world of integrity, justice and dignity for all, abstract mathematical skills serve to make it possible for us to better understand our present reality, make responsible choices regarding the future, and perceive the impact of our behaviour and decisions on ourselves, others and the world. Mathematics reflects the genius of the mathematicians who, through the centuries, have developed this largely abstract science. The product of these minds is also a reflection of the glory of God fully alive, in not only the mathematicians but in those who learn from them.

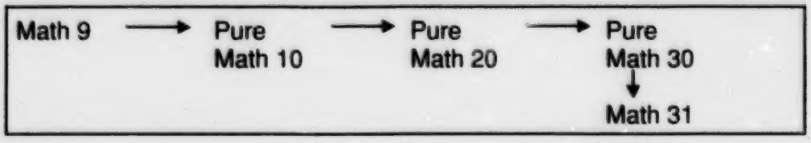
Senior high school students can choose from several mathematics course sequences depending on their preferred learning style and career goals. Applied mathematics emphasizes the application of mathematics and the use of numerical and geometric approaches to solve problems. Pure mathematics emphasizes mathematical theory and the use of algebra and graphing to solve problems. Mathematics 14–24 is designed for students who wish to meet the minimum mathematics requirements for a senior high school diploma. Mathematics Preparation 10 is designed for students who have not met the requirements of junior high school mathematics but desire to take applied or pure mathematics.

Mathematics 16–26 is a course sequence of the Integrated Occupational Program, which leads to a Certificate of Achievement.

Mathematics Programs for Students Entering Senior High School

Students entering senior high school choose programs based on how well they achieved in Grade 9 Mathematics, their interests, career aspirations and post-secondary choices. The following program sequences exist for students entering senior high school.





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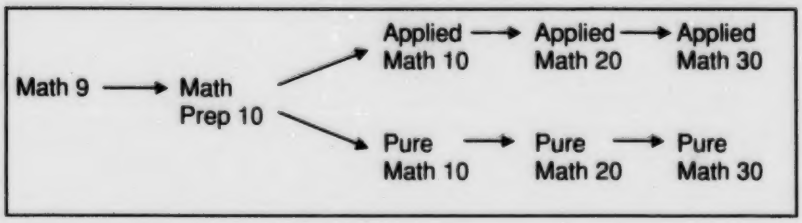
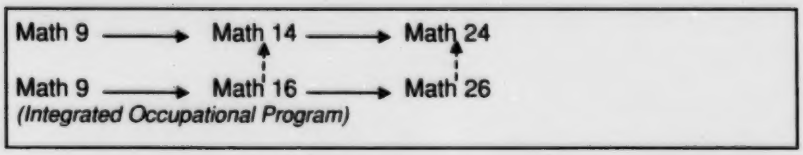




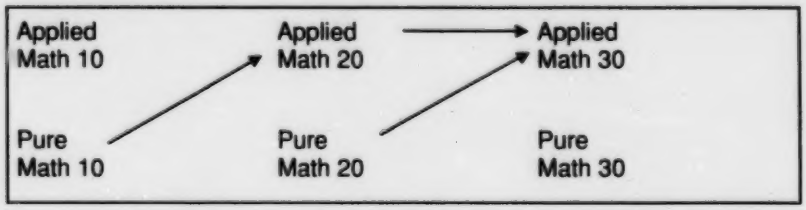
http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca

Each post-secondary institution has its own entrance requirements that may change at any time. Information about post-secondary institutions can be found through the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) Web site.

Students considering post-secondary studies should contact their guidance counsellor before choosing mathematics courses.

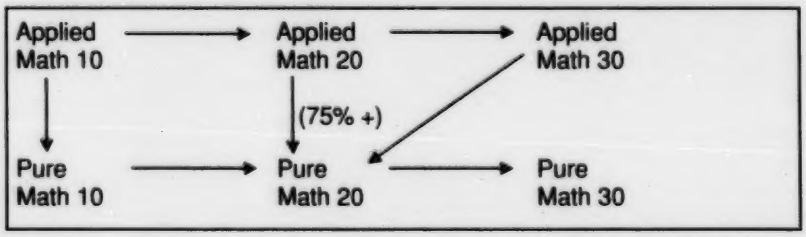
Transfer from Pure Mathematics to Applied Mathematics

Students who complete Pure Mathematics can transfer to the Applied Mathematics program sequence at the next level. For example, students who complete Pure Mathematics 10 can transfer to Applied Mathematics 20.



Transfer from Applied Mathematics to Pure Mathematics

Students who complete Applied Mathematics are recommended to move into the Pure Mathematics program at the same level. Students who pass Applied Mathematics 20 may transfer to Pure Mathematics 20. (The student needs to have a mark of 75% or better.)



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Applied Mathematics 10–20–30 and Pure Mathematics 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

These courses are based on two parallel program sequences, one in Applied Mathematics and one in Pure Mathematics, with some material common to both sequences. In Applied Mathematics 10–20–30, emphasis is placed on applications of mathematics rather than on precise mathematical theory. The approaches used are primarily numerical and geometrical; algebraic and graphical methods are used when the contexts require them. In Pure Mathematics 10–20–30, emphasis is placed on mathematical theory. The approaches used are primarily algebraic and graphical; computational methods are used when the contexts require them.

Applied Mathematics 10/ Pure Mathematics 10 (5 credits each)

Students in **Applied Mathematics 10 and Pure Mathematics 10** study:

- spreadsheets for number tables and patterns
- line segments and straight line graphs
- scales, triangles and statistical surveys.

Students in **Applied Mathematics 10** study:

- data tables and trends
- imperial and metric measurement.

Students in **Pure Mathematics 10** study:

- operations on exponents, polynomials and rational expressions
- irrational numbers and growth patterns.

Applied Mathematics 20/ Pure Mathematics 20 (5 credits each)

Students in **Applied Mathematics 20 and Pure Mathematics 20** study:

- financial and consumer mathematics
- quadratic functions
- geometry of the circle.

Students in **Applied Mathematics 20** study:

- design and layout
- data presentation and inference
- inequalities and linear programming.

Students in **Pure Mathematics 20** study:

- solutions to nonlinear equations and linear systems
- operations on functions, including polynomial functions
- mathematical reasoning and proof.

Applied Mathematics 30/ Pure Mathematics 30 (5 credits each)

Students in **Applied Mathematics 30 and Pure Mathematics 30** study:

- statistics of the normal curve.

Students in **Applied Mathematics 30** study:

- vectors and matrices
- sinusoidal models
- financial analysis
- process design and costing.

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Students in **Pure Mathematics 30** study:

- algebraic transformations
- permutations, combinations and probability
- circular functions
- exponential and logarithmic functions
- conic sections.

Completion of Applied Mathematics 30 or Pure Mathematics 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

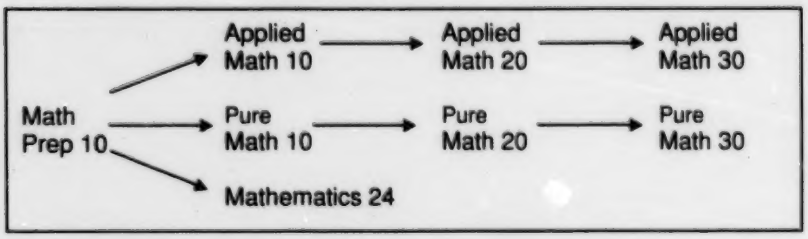
Mathematics Preparation 10 (3 or 5 credits)

This course is designed for students who have not experienced success in Grade 9 mathematics. Mathematics Preparation 10 leads to both the applied and pure mathematics sequences and may be offered for 3 or 5 credits. The content is based on the general outcomes for Grade 9 mathematics, with flexibility for also addressing Grade 7 and Grade 8 outcomes, based on student need.

Students in Mathematics Preparation 10 study the following topics:

- algebra
- proportion, ratio and per cent
- fractions
- problem solving
- number skills
- use of technology.

Students who complete Mathematics Preparation 10 may enter into Applied Mathematics 10, Pure Mathematics 10 or Mathematics 24.



Mathematics 31 (5 credits)

This is a highly advanced course designed for students entering post-secondary programs that recommend or stipulate it as an entrance requirement. It is desirable that students complete Pure Mathematics 30 before taking Mathematics 31. In some circumstances, students may take Pure Mathematics 30 and Mathematics 31 in the same semester. The Mathematics 31 curriculum is comprised of the following required components and their related outcomes:

- precalculus and limits
- derivatives and derivative theorems
- applications of derivatives
- integrals, integral theorems and integral applications.

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At least one of the following elective components is included in the Mathematics 31 curriculum:

- calculus of exponential and logarithmic functions
- numerical methods
- volumes of revolution
- applications of calculus to physical sciences and engineering
- applications of calculus to biological sciences
- applications of calculus to business and economics
- calculus theorems
- further methods of integration.

Mathematics 14–24 (5 credits each)

This sequence is designed for students whose needs, interests and abilities focus on basic mathematical understanding. The emphasis is on the acquisition of practical life skills, and students are provided with opportunities to improve their skills in working with mathematics.

The mathematics outcomes for both courses are organized into:

- problem solving
- numeration
- geometry
- measurement.

Students in Mathematics 14 also study:

- ratio and proportion
- statistics and probability
- algebra and graphing.

Students in Mathematics 24 apply mathematics in the contexts of:

- work
- banking
- transportation
- accommodation
- cost of independence.

Mathematics 16–26 (3 credits each)—Integrated Occupational Program

The Mathematics Integrated Occupational Program is designed to assist students in developing the essential concepts, skills and attitudes of mathematics that are required for responsible participation in the home, the school, the workplace and the community.

The following strands are common to both courses, with the 26 level building on the 16 level:

- problem solving
- use of technology
- computation
- number systems and operations
- ratio, proportion and per cent
- geometry and measurement
- data interpretation and display
- algebra.

Students in Mathematics 26 also study:

- powers and square roots
- work within a coordinate system
- basic probability.

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Science

View the science subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/science

The aim of the senior high school science program is to help students attain the scientific awareness needed to be effective members of society. The components included are attitudes, scientific knowledge, mathematical/laboratory skills, critical thinking skills, and connections to science, technology and society. Students are expected to be able to operate in the framework of scientific inquiry as they develop their problem-solving abilities and use technology appropriately.

Within the context of the Catholic high school every effort is made to help the students explore the relationship between science, technology, society and our responsibility to act justly and work toward a more loving society. By emphasizing the need for balance between scientific thought and a concern for humanity, students are encouraged to reflect on the role they play in helping create the peaceful and loving society envisioned by Christ. In this context issues related to morals, ethics, stewardship, responsible choices for the enhancement of life and respect for creation, are integrated into the science curriculum.

Learning opportunities are made meaningful so students can relate science to their lives in and out of the classroom. This encourages an interest in science as a lifelong learning experience.

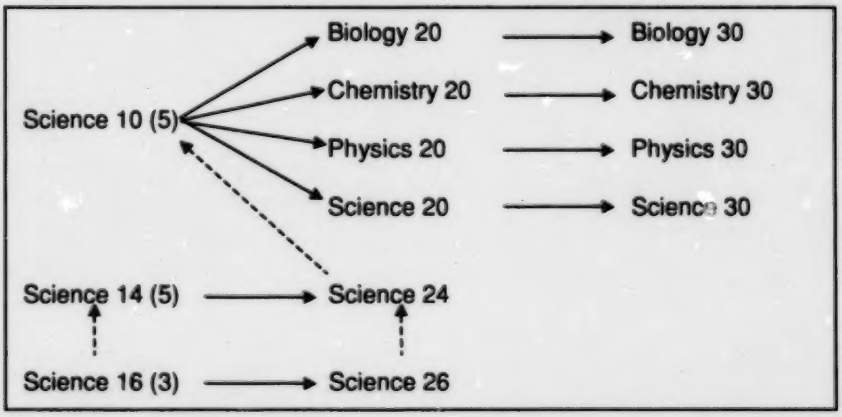
The program consists of many courses. Students have several choices depending on their interests, abilities and future goals, as shown in the following prerequisites chart.

These courses lead to an Alberta High School Diploma:

- Science 10 — Academic Integrated Science
- Biology 20–30 — Academic Specialty Science
- Chemistry 20–30 — Academic Specialty Science
- Physics 20–30 — Academic Specialty Science
- Science 20–30 — Academic Integrated Science
- Science 14–24 — General Science

These courses lead to a Certificate of Achievement:

- Science 16–26 — Integrated Occupational Program Science



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All senior high school science courses are centred around four general learner expectations:

- attitudes: an enthusiasm for, and a continuing interest in science
- knowledge: an understanding of the fundamental concepts of science
- skills: scientific inquiry and appropriate use of technology
- **S**cience, **t**echnology and **s**ociety (STS) connections: how scientific knowledge develops, solving problems and making choices.

Science 10 (5 credits)

This academic course provides students with a unified view of the biological, chemical, physical and earth sciences and an awareness of the connections among them. **Science 10 is the prerequisite for all the academic sciences.**

The four topics covered are:

- Energy from the Sun
- Energy and Matter in Chemical Change
- Energy and Matter in Living Systems
- Change and Energy.

Biology 20–30 (5 credits each)

This academic program explores the interactions of living systems with one another and with their environment. In Biology 20, the underlying theme is energy and matter exchange. In Biology 30, the emphasis is on adaptation and change.

Biology 20

The four topics covered are:

- The Biosphere
- Energy and Matter Exchange in Ecosystems
- Energy Flows and Cellular Matter
- Energy and Matter Exchange by the Human Organism.

Biology 30

The four topics covered are:

- Systems Regulating Change in Human Organisms
- Cells, Chromosomes and DNA
- Reproduction and Development
- Change in Populations and Communities.

Completion of Biology 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

Chemistry 20–30 (5 credits each)

This academic program is designed to study matter and its changes. Students, through the study of Chemistry 20–30, are given an opportunity to explore and understand the natural world and to become aware of the profound influence of chemistry on their lives.

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Chemistry 20

The four topics covered are:

- Matter as Solutions, Acids, Bases and Gases
- Chemical Bonding in Matter
- Quantitative Relationships in Chemical Changes
- The Diversity of Matter: An Introduction to Organic Chemistry.

Chemistry 30

The three topics covered are:

- Thermochemical Changes
- Electrochemical Changes
- Equilibrium, Acids and Bases in Chemical Changes.

Completion of Chemistry 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

Physics 20–30 (5 credits each)

This academic program is designed to study matter and energy and their interactions. Physics 20–30 helps students understand the physics principles behind the natural events they experience and the technology they use in their daily lives.

Physics 20

The four topics covered are:

- Kinematics and Dynamics
- Mechanical Waves
- Circular Motion and Gravitation
- Light.

Physics 30

The four topics covered are:

- Conservation Laws
- Magnetic Forces and Fields
- Electric Forces and Fields
- Nature of Matter.

Completion of Physics 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

Science 20–30 (5 credits each)

The Science 20–30 program is designed for the student who is interested in science but does not require science courses for post-secondary education.

Science 20

The four topics covered are:

- The Changing Earth
- Chemical Changes
- Changes in Living Systems
- Changes in Motion.

Science 30

The four topics covered are:

- Living Systems Respond to Their Environment
- Electromagnetic Energy
- Chemistry in the Environment
- Energy and the Environment.

Completion of Science 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

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Science 14–24 (5 credits each)

This program allows students whose success in science has been limited to still meet the credit requirements for an Alberta High School Diploma. The focus is on helping students understand the scientific principles behind the natural events they experience and the technology they use in their lives.

Science 14

The four topics covered are:

- Investigating Properties of Matter
- Understanding Energy Transfer Technologies
- Investigating Matter and Energy in Living Systems
- Investigating Matter and Energy in the Environment.

Science 24

The four topics covered are:

- Disease Defence
- Materials We Use
- Energy Consumption
- Safe Transportation.

In each course, there are other optional topics that may or may not be offered.

Science 16–26 (3 credits each)—Integrated Occupational Program

Using a practical approach, this program meets the science requirements of the Integrated Occupational Program. It is designed to enable students to develop entry-level vocational abilities and to recognize the need for lifelong learning. Each of the four themes provides hands-on learning experiences.

Science 16

The four topics covered are:

- Systems of the Human Body
- Using Systems and Technologies
- Chemistry for the Consumer
- Caring for Environment and Resources.

Science 26

The four topics covered are:

- Personal Health and Lifestyle
- Technology in Transportation
- Materials We Use
- Energy and the Environment.

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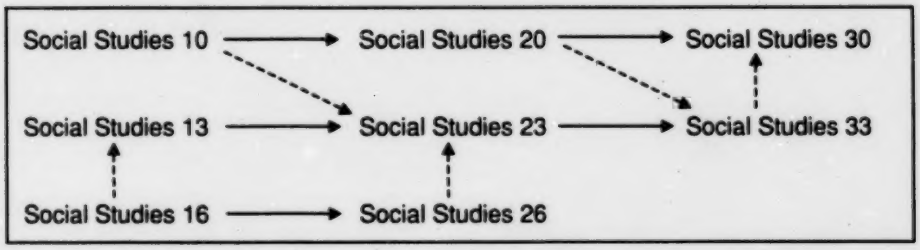
Social Studies

View the social studies subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/social/default.asp

The ultimate goal of social studies is responsible citizenship. The responsible citizen is one who is knowledgeable, purposeful and makes responsible choices. Basic to the goal of responsible citizenship is the development of critical thinking. The inquiry process, communication, participation and technological skills are emphasized in order to foster critical thinking.

The integration of the social studies curriculum and the Church's social teachings is central to a Catholic student's education. In Catholic schools, social studies encompasses a view of the person and society as perceived through the eyes of Christ and His Church. The Church's teachings present the individual as a unique creature of God, living ideally in caring and loving relationships with oneself, others and God. It is recognized that with the gift of free will, individual and communal choices are made. In many instances our choices help build a better world, but in many other circumstances they lead to a breakdown in relationships, sometimes on a catastrophic scale. Education and formation within the Catholic school strives to help students make responsible choices that will help shape our world and society in the likeness of the Kingdom of God.

Citizenship education is based on an understanding of history, geography, economics, other social sciences and the humanities as they affect the Canadian community and the world. Current affairs add considerably to the relevance, interest and immediacy of the material and help to foster lifelong learning skills.



Note: Social Studies 30 and Social Studies 33 may be taken in the same semester. If this occurs, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made to write both diploma examinations.

There are three programs in the social studies curriculum.

In order to accommodate students with a wide range of abilities, needs, interests and aspirations, two course sequences have been developed for this program: Social Studies 10–20–30 and Social Studies 13–23–33. Although the content, skills and attitudes are similar for these two sequences, the expectations for Social Studies 10–20–30 are more challenging, particularly in the depth of concept development, the level of critical and creative thinking, and inquiry skill development. The nature of the approved student resources differs for each sequence.

Social Studies 16–26 has been developed within the Integrated Occupational Program to address the needs of students who learn best through concrete, real-life experiences.

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Social Studies 10–20–30
(5 credits each)

Social Studies 10: Canada in the Modern World

This course emphasizes the study and appreciation of Canada and the forces and events that have influenced Canada's development. The course also illustrates how responsible citizenship requires an understanding of the structure and function of government. This includes an examination of:

- development of Canada
- national identity
- structure and function of government
- responsible participation
- sovereignty
- regionalism
- citizenship.

Social Studies 20: The Growth of the Global Perspective

Students examine how the modern world has been influenced by major ideas and forces that have emerged from nineteenth century experience and how economic growth and development have led to increased global interdependence. This course illustrates why a responsible global citizen needs to be aware of the effect history and economic growth have on the interaction of nations. This includes an examination of:

- nationalism
- imperialism
- diversity
- interdependence
- quality of life
- industrialization
- international rivalries and conflict
- disparity
- economic development
- alternative futures.

Social Studies 30: The Contemporary World

Students are given an opportunity to acquire an understanding of world political and economic systems, the roles of individuals and groups within these systems, and how these systems have struck a balance between collective good and individual interest. Upon completion of the program, students are expected to be able to understand consequences and alternative choices in twentieth century global interactions since the First World War. This includes an examination of:

- twentieth century global interactions
- motive, consequences and alternative choices
- political and economic systems.

Completion of Social Studies 30 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

Social Studies 13–23–33
(5 credits each)

Social Studies 13: Canada in the Modern World

Students examine some of the forces and factors that have shaped Canada and developed its unique identity. Students gain an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. This includes an examination of:

- identity
- citizenship
- participation in politics and society
- sovereignty
- rights and responsibilities.

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Social Studies 23: The Growth of the Global Perspective

Students are presented with the opportunity to understand the impact of new ideas and changes, past and present, on society. Students recognize the diversity and interrelatedness of the world. This includes an examination of:

- nationalism
- egalitarianism
- interdependence
- disparity
- economic development
- industrialization
- quality of life
- diversity
- alternative futures.

Social Studies 33: The Contemporary World

Students are given an opportunity to acquire an understanding of major political and economic ideas and systems so they can participate as effective and responsible citizens.

Upon completion of the program, students are expected to be able to understand and appreciate how nations have sought to protect and promote their national interests; how individuals and groups contribute to, and are affected by, global interactions; and how these interactions have consequences for their lives and the global community. This includes an examination of:

- political and economic systems
- global interactions in the twentieth century.

Completion of Social Studies 33 requires the writing of a provincial diploma examination.

Social Studies 16–26 (3 credits each) Integrated Occupational Program

Social Studies 16

Students gain an understanding of the rights and responsibilities for participation in the Canadian political process and Canadian society. They learn to relate rights, responsibilities and laws to the workplace. This includes an examination of:

- decision making
- resolving disagreement
- Canadian government
- participatory citizenship
- employment
- personal economics
- power and influence
- rights and responsibilities
- tolerance versus prejudice and discrimination.

Social Studies 26

Students gain an understanding of their personal, regional and Canadian identities and how these relate to each other. Students also examine the influence of the global community on Canada and on individual Canadians, and the trends that may influence individual career choices. This includes an examination of:

- Canadian community
- Canadian identity
- historical development
- international involvement
- influences on employment opportunities
- Canadian diversity
- cultural interaction
- Canadian security
- employment opportunities
- community partnerships.

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Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

View the information and communication technology subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/ict/outcomes/div4.asp

The ICT curriculum is not intended to stand alone as a course, but rather to be infused within core courses and programs. Schools have until June 2003 to phase in the program. The outcomes are organized by division: Division 4 is Grade 10 to Grade 12.

Students learn about the nature of technology, how to use and apply a variety of technologies and the importance of technology to self and society.

The following learning outcomes are selected from the Grade 10 to Grade 12 Information and Communication Technology Program of Studies

Communicating, Inquiring, Decision Making and Problem Solving

- critically assess information accessed through the use of a variety of technologies
- use technology to aid collaboration during inquiry
- use electronic research techniques to construct personal knowledge and meaning

Foundational Operations, Knowledge and Concepts

- demonstrate a moral and ethical approach to the use of technology
- become discerning consumers of mass media and electronic information
- demonstrate a basic understanding of the operating skills required in a variety of technologies

Processes and Productivity

- communicate through multimedia
- integrate various applications
- navigate and create hyperlinked resources

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Career and Life Management (CALM) (3 credits)

The aim of senior high school Career and Life Management (CALM) is to enable students to make well-informed, considered decisions and choices in all aspects of their lives and to develop behaviours and attitudes that contribute to the well-being and respect of self and others, now and in the future. CALM is the core program for health literacy at the senior high school level in Alberta.

In Catholic schools, students are helped to understand that our careers and our professional lives are the context in which we live out our Christian faith and have the opportunity to serve others. Every action on behalf of charity and justice is integral to the Gospel message. Students are encouraged to seek the guidance and support of God in their lives, both in decision making and in lifestyle choices.

The CALM program focuses on personal development in the following three areas.

Personal Choices

- apply an understanding of the emotional/psychological, intellectual, social, spiritual and physical dimensions of health—and the dynamic interplay of these factors—in managing personal well-being.

Resource Choices

- make responsible decisions in the use of finances and other resources that reflect personal values and goals and demonstrate commitment to self and others.

Career and Life Choices

- develop and apply processes for managing personal, lifelong career development.

Exemptions from CALM

For students who are not at the age of majority or living independently, parents have the right to exempt their children from school instruction in human sexuality education by submitting a letter to the school indicating their intention to do so. Schools will provide alternative learning experiences for those students who have been exempted from human sexuality instruction at the request of their parents. Students must complete the remainder of the course in order to receive credits.

Students may be exempted completely from CALM for only two reasons: out-of-province Grade 12 students transferring into Alberta schools; religious beliefs.

Parents should contact the principal of the school about these exemptions.

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Physical Education 10

(3, 4 or 5 credits each)

View the physical education subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/physed/

The aim of the K–12 physical education program is to enable students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. Students participate in a variety of physical activities: dance, games, types of gymnastics, individual activities and activities in alternative environments, such as aquatics and outdoor pursuits. All learning outcomes are to be met through these activities.

Within the Catholic high school, some of the values integrated into the physical education program include recognizing the dignity of each person as evident in their unique gifts and talents, community building, cooperation and shared responsibility, respect and care for the body.

The following learning outcomes are selected from the Grade 10 Physical Education Program of Studies.

Activity

- apply and refine locomotor, nonlocomotor and manipulative skills and concepts—effort, space and relationships to perform and create a variety of activities to improve personal performance
- adapt and improve activity-specific skills in a variety of environments; e.g., camping, canoeing, survival skills

Benefits Health

- design, analyze and modify nutrition programs that will positively affect performance in physical activity
- acknowledge and analyze the media and peer influences on body image

Cooperation

- discuss issues related to positive athletic/active living role models
- develop and apply practices that contribute to teamwork

Do It Daily ... for Life!

View examples of student activities at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca

- select and apply rules, routines and procedures of safety in a variety of activities
- analyze current physical activity lifestyles and establish personally challenging goals to maintain participation for life

Exemptions from Physical Education

Exemptions from participation in physical education may be given for medical conditions, when accompanied by a medical certification from a doctor to the principal; for religious beliefs, when accompanied by a statement in writing from the parent to the principal; and where access to facilities is prohibitive. When exemption is granted, activities consistent with the program outcomes should be substituted where appropriate.

Physical Education Online

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/physicaleducationonline

The Physical Education Online Web site provides a wealth of information to support student learning of the K–12 physical education program of studies. The site is organized into three major sections:

- Program of Studies
- Teacher Resources
- Home Education

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Optional Courses/ Programs

In addition to required courses, students will select from a variety of optional courses. Optional courses are designed to reinforce learnings in core courses, and to provide opportunities for students to explore areas of interest and career possibilities.

The range of optional courses offered varies from school to school depending on such factors as student and parent preferences, facilities and staffing.

Optional Courses/Programs. *Students select a variety from:*				
Career and Technology Studies (CTS)	Fine and Performing Arts	Languages Other than English*	Off-campus Programs	Locally Developed Courses

Career and Technology Studies (CTS)

View the career and technology studies subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/cts/

Career and Technology Studies (CTS) is an optional program designed for Alberta's secondary school students. CTS helps junior high and senior high school students to:

- develop skills they can apply in daily living now and in the future
- investigate career options and make effective career choices
- use technology (processes, tools and techniques) effectively and efficiently
- apply and reinforce learnings developed in other subject areas
- prepare for entry into the workplace or further learning.

In the Christian tradition, work is seen basically as cooperation and participation in the creative work of God. The dignity of one's work comes from the essential dignity of the worker in the sight of God. In Catholic schools, work, the creative use of our gifts and talents, and the application of skills for the good of the community, are recognized as essential aspects of each Christian's vocation to share in the building of a just society for all people.

The CTS curriculum is organized into 22 strands. Each strand represents a group of courses designed to support broad career and occupational opportunities. Courses are the building blocks for each strand, and they define what a student is expected to know and be able to do.

New courses for the 2002–2003 school year include:

- Communication Technology—Digital Imaging 1; Digital Imaging 2; Digital Imaging 3
- Information Processing—Computer Science 1; Computer Science 2; Computer Science 3; Object-oriented Programming 1; Object-oriented Programming 2; Dynamic Data Structures 1; Dynamic Data Structures 2

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The 22 Career and Technology Studies program strands are:

Agriculture	Fashion Studies
Career Transitions	Financial Management
Communication Technology	Foods
Community Health	Forestry
Construction Technologies	Information Processing
Cosmetology Studies	Legal Studies
Design Studies	Logistics
Electro-Technologies	Management and Marketing
Energy and Mines	Mechanics
Enterprise and Innovation	Tourism Studies
Fabrication Studies	Wildlife

Fine Arts

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/finearts/default.asp

The fine arts program, comprised of art, drama and music, encourages and develops personal expression through artistic activities. These programs encourage students to appreciate, understand, create, critique and, most of all, enjoy the products of their own making. The programs provide the opportunity for students to use not only their minds but also their voices, hands and bodies. Art, drama and music enhance the core senior high school experiences and cultivate well-rounded individuals. Content and opportunities within these programs depend upon the resources available to each school.

In the Catholic high school, music and dance, drama and the visual arts are seen as more than just artistic forms; they are also conduits of religious feelings, imagination and understanding. The fine arts use of the religious symbol and their capacity to evoke religious meaning from material creation ensure their value as pathways to the sacred. Art, drama and music, therefore, are seen as enhancing the student's high school experiences. They are integral to the formation of students as confident, perceptive, and truly 'whole' persons capable of creatively expressing themselves and their Catholic faith.

Art

Art 10 → (3, 4 or 5 credits)	Art 20 → (3, 4 or 5 credits)	Art 30 (5 credits)
Art 11 → (3, 4 or 5 credits)	Art 21 → (3, 4 or 5 credits)	Art 31 (5 credits)

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Art 10–20–30

This sequence of general art courses is primarily a studio-based program emphasizing a variety of media. Students have the opportunity to explore visual expression and establish the groundwork for artistic skills. The program consists of three general areas of visual learning:

- drawings: how visual information is seen and presented; developing technical and critical skills
- compositions: how images are designed; creating meaning visually
- encounters: how visual images evoke responses and interpretation; exploring art across history and tradition.

Art 11–21–31

This sequence of courses is primarily a nonstudio-based program, examining the role of art in our lives, how we create it, and how we react to it. Rather than creating art, the focus is on how and why art has become a central part of our world. The student is given the opportunity to assume the role of insightful critic and art historian. The program consists of three general areas of learning in visual art:

- function: how images are used to express and reflect society's values, beliefs and issues
- creation: the achievements and methods of artists throughout history and in different cultures
- appreciation: how the visual qualities in works of art are seen and responded to.

Drama

Drama 10 (3 or 5 credits)	→	Drama 20 (3 or 5 credits)	→	Drama 30 (5 credits)

Drama 10–20–30

Drama 10–20–30 includes eight distinct disciplines, each with its own particular goals and study requirements. Drama provides the opportunity for a thorough introduction to the theatre experience, developing both technical and performance-based skills. Similar to all fine arts programs, drama develops personal expression but goes further by teaching the skills needed to work creatively with others. The following disciplines may be part of a drama program.

- Movement
- Speech
- Improvisation
- Acting
- Theatre Studies
- Technical Theatre Design
- Playwriting
- Directing

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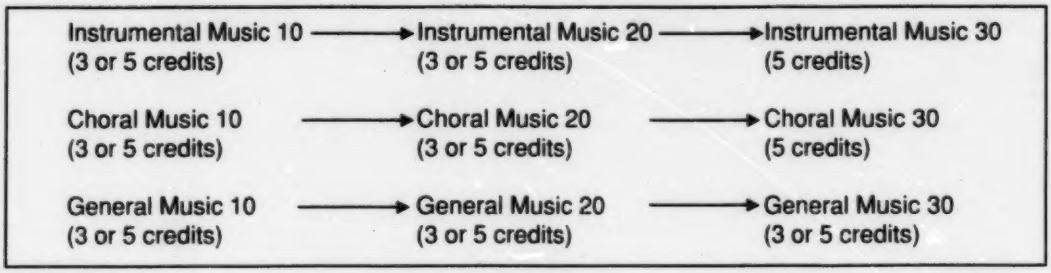
Music


Instrumental Music 10 (3 or 5 credits)
Instrumental Music 20 (3 or 5 credits)
Instrumental Music 30 (5 credits)
Choral Music 10 (3 or 5 credits)
Choral Music 20 (3 or 5 credits)
Choral Music 30 (5 credits)
General Music 10 (3 or 5 credits)
General Music 20 (3 or 5 credits)
General Music 30 (3 or 5 credits)

Instrumental Music 10–20–30 and Choral Music 10–20–30

Through Instrumental Music 10–20–30 and Choral Music 10–20–30, the student develops musical abilities by playing/singing, listening, reading and creating music. These programs consist of three general areas of learning:

- performing: how musical skills are developed; building knowledge and awareness
- listening: how music is understood; appreciating musicians throughout history
- composing: how musical compositions are created; organizing elements of music.

General Music 10–20–30

General Music 10–20–30 is ideal for students interested in nonperformance-based musical experiences. Students are required to complete the following components:

- theory: how and why music is produced; appreciating the theory, the history and the sound of music
- music making: music performance leading to self-evaluation; encountering music by playing
- electives: may include the following: Composition, History of Western Music, Music and Technology, World Music, Careers in Music, Jazz Appreciation, Popular Music.

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Physical Education 20–30
(3, 4 or 5 credits each)

View the physical education subject page at http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/physed/

The aim of the K–12 physical education program is to enable individuals to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. These optional courses continue to emphasize active living, with a focus on physical activity that is valued and integrated into daily life. A wide variety of activities, often with use of community facilities, are offered. All learning outcomes are met through these activities.

Activity

- acquire skills through a variety of developmentally appropriate movement activities; dance, games, types of gymnastics, individual activities and activities in an alternative environment; e.g., aquatics and outdoor pursuits

Benefits Health

- understand, experience and appreciate the health benefits that result from physical activity

Cooperation

- interact positively with others

Do It Daily ... for Life!

- assume responsibility to lead an active way of life

Languages Other than English

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/default.asp

Alberta provides a number of language study opportunities that help to develop individual potential and better prepare students for daily living and the challenges of an international world of work and travel. These programs allow students to acquire language skills in situations that reflect life experiences. Students who take second language programs may continue to use their language skills in work, educational or travel settings. Placement in senior high school language programs depends upon individual language proficiency. Students receive 5 credits for 125 hours of course work.

Immersion language programs at the senior high school level are usually extensions of programs begun at the elementary level, often called Early Immersion, or at the junior high school level, often called Late Immersion. Bilingual programs are partial immersion programs that generally begin at the elementary level.

In a Catholic school, students are encouraged through language study to respect the dignity of all people and discover the inherent unity of all nations. Our unique languages and cultures serve as differing expressions of our shared, graced humanity. The study of languages opens avenues of communication and dialogue between peoples and serves to break down barriers of silence and misunderstanding within the human family.

Aboriginal Studies 10–20–30

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/abor102030.pdf

This three-course sequence provides students with a framework to understand diverse Aboriginal cultures within their region, Canada and the world. The term "Aboriginal" refers to First Nations, Métis and Inuit. The courses are based on Aboriginal worldviews and experiences and include the following concepts:

- there is a need to respect, honour and celebrate Aboriginal cultures in Alberta, Canada and the world

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- Aboriginal values and beliefs are resilient and relevant to global issues
- Aboriginal nations have strong, diverse and evolving cultures that have adapted to a changing world
- language/communication in all its forms is one of the essential means by which culture is learned.

There are four themes identified in each course.

The four themes in Aboriginal Studies 10 are:

- Origin and Settlement Patterns
- Aboriginal Worldviews
- Political and Economic Organization
- Aboriginal Symbolism and Expression.

The four themes in Aboriginal Studies 20 are:

- The Métis: Conflict and Cultural Change
- Treaties and Cultural Change
- Legislation, Policies and Cultural Change
- Schooling and Cultural Change.

The four themes in Aboriginal Studies are:

- Aboriginal Rights and Self-government
- Aboriginal Land Claims
- Aboriginal Peoples in Canadian Society
- Aboriginal World Issues.

Blackfoot Language and Culture 10–20–30 (5 credits each)
Cree Language and Culture 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

These two programs have three-course sequences at the senior high school level; however, students may begin study at an earlier age. Upon completion of a program, students express themselves in speech and have an awareness and appreciation of the oral culture of Aboriginal peoples. The contributions of Elders and other members of the community are an important aspect of each program.

French Immersion

This is a program in which French is the language of instruction for a significant part of the school day; that is, several or all subjects are taught in French. Immersion is designed for students whose first language is not French. The objective is full mastery of the English language, functional fluency in French, as well as an understanding and appreciation of the French culture. The expected outcome is related to the total amount of exposure to the language. Students continue to take French language arts and receive instruction in French in at least one other 5-credit course. French language versions of most senior high school courses are available. Students taking courses that have diploma examinations may write these examinations in French or in English.

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French Language Arts 10–20–30

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/fsl/frla10.pdf

A three-course sequence for students who are registered in French partial immersion/bilingual programs. At the senior high school level, the aim of the French Language Arts program is to:

- develop the students' ability to think critically and analytically so that they might react appropriately to the contents of media products and techniques
- help students cultivate an appreciation of the cultural reality of the Canadian and international "francophonie"
- increase student awareness of the elements that ensure message clarity, such as exact, precise words and expressions, and increasingly complex, correct sentences
- develop in students a respect for the basic rules of the language in organized verbal exchanges in the classroom as well as in written projects
- understand, clarify and express abstract thought
- develop students' ability to plan and monitor their communication projects whether they are working individually or with partners in the classroom.

The following learning outcomes are selected from the French Language Arts Program of Studies.

Oral Comprehension

- participate in group work situations
- view and listen to audiovisual materials
- pay attention to the organization of a message
- choose the most effective means of taking notes and acquiring in-depth knowledge of a subject

Reading Comprehension

- read and understand increasingly complex fiction and nonfiction texts by considering organization (explanatory, analytical and argumentative)
- develop various ways of annotating a text

Oral Production

- demonstrate what is known about a given subject
- learn the vocabulary and syntax necessary for discussions in various contexts
- express opinions based on examples from readings and discussions

Writing

- express ideas clearly when writing argumentative texts, text summaries and argumentative/analytical texts
- consult reliable sources to ensure text quality and use reference works effectively
- verify the effectiveness of the procedures used and respect the language mechanisms to be used at each level
- assess their ability to evaluate their efficiency in managing or monitoring certain elements of the task.

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French as a Second Language

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/fsl/default.asp

French 13–**10–20–30**–31a–31b–31c
Course sequence in bold print refers to the minimum standard expected upon completion of a senior high school French as a second language program.

The French as a second language program at the senior high school level consists of seven courses. French 13 and 10 are beginning level courses, French 20 and 30 are intermediate level courses and French 31a, 31b and 31c are advanced level courses. Placement in a French as a second language course depends upon language proficiency at the entry levels. For example, a student who has already mastered the beginning level of French before entering senior high school may be placed in French 20 instead of French 10. While the high school leaving level is usually French 30, an advanced proficiency program is also available in some schools. This program consists of French 31a, 31b and 31c.

These courses are sequential, and students demonstrate the appropriate language proficiency before proceeding to the next level.

French 13–10 (Beginning Level Courses), French 20–30 (Intermediate Level Courses)—5 credits each

Students produce and comprehend:

- French 13: simple spoken and written statements, using a basic vocabulary
- French 10: a greater variety of spoken and written statements
- French 20: a series of interrelated ideas on a familiar topic in structured situations
- French 30: both simple and complex statements on a variety of topics in both structured and unstructured situations.

French 31a–31b–31c (Advanced Level Courses)—5 credits each

Students develop advanced level language skills, by:

- French 31a: providing main points and supporting details, and understanding and interpreting the main points of a communication
- French 31b: generating more complex ideas in a coherent way through various types of communication requiring some spontaneous responses
- French 31c: engaging in more extensive and spontaneous communication.

German 10–20–30–31 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/german.pdf

A three- or four-course sequence depending on the student's level of proficiency upon entering senior high school. The program goals are to promote the development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to interact effectively in the German language and to increase awareness of German culture worldwide.

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Italian 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/italian.pdf

A three-course sequence. Students acquire basic communication skills, develop cultural sensitivity, and develop originality and creativity in language use.

Japanese Language and Culture 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/japan.pdf

A three-course sequence subdivided into five stages, each of which has five sublevels. The five stages are Introduction to Japan, Japan Today, Japan and the World, Japan Tomorrow and a specialized area of study. Upon completion of the program, students achieve a minimum of all five levels at Stage Three, if they are not native speakers. If they are native speakers, they master all five levels at Stage Five.

Latin 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/latin.pdf

A three-course sequence with an emphasis on language history. Students gain a knowledge of vocabulary and grammar as they relate to modern languages, as well as an appreciation of Latin's impact upon the history of language in general.

Spanish 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/spanish.pdf

A three-course sequence. Students develop basic communication skills, cultural sensitivity, and originality and creativity in language use.

Ukrainian 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/ukrain.pdf

A three-course sequence. Students who began the study of Ukrainian in junior high school should follow the Ukrainian 10S–20S–30S sequence. Upon completion of the programs, students are able to express themselves on familiar topics in speech and in writing and read for information, as well as appreciate and understand the Ukrainian culture.

Ukrainian Language Arts 10–20–30 (5 credits each)

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/languages/ukla.pdf

A three-course sequence for students who study Ukrainian in the Ukrainian Bilingual Program. Students develop Ukrainian language skills, become sensitive to cultural differences and recognize the contribution of the lifestyle of Ukrainians to the wider community.

Other Languages

Many school boards have developed their own programs. Locally developed language programs include: Arabic, Chinese, Chipewyan, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese and Swedish. These locally developed courses are based on local needs and demands, and may vary from year to year.

For more information on second language instruction offered in your area, please contact your local school board.

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Off-campus Education

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/offcampus.pdf

Off-campus education is a partnership among schools, employers and students that supports and enhances student learning. The learning experiences provided allow students to expand pathways into the workplace and to explore career interests and abilities. Additional information about off-campus education is available in the *Off-campus Education Guide for Administrators, Counsellors and Teachers*, 2000 and on the Alberta Learning Web site. Programs within off-campus learning include:

Work Experience 15–25–35

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/others/workexp.pdf

This sequence of courses is available to senior high school students. Students work with an employer to complete individually defined learning experiences. One credit is earned for each 25 hours of experience. Students are required to complete the Career Transitions CTR1010 Job Preparation 1-credit course as a prerequisite or corequisite to their first work experience course.

Work Study

Students spend part of their school day in one or more workplaces in order to enhance and extend their classroom learning. This program is available to junior and senior high school students.

Career Internship 10

Career Internship 10 is a discrete course designed to support and prepare students with the basic, workplace readiness competencies for entry into a trade, technology or service career. It may be offered for 3, 4 or 5 credits, and is designed to be delivered primarily off-campus.

Career Internship 10 is recommended as a prerequisite to enrolling in the Registered Apprenticeship Program or other technology or service career-related courses and programs.

Registered Apprenticeship Program

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/rapinforman.pdf

The Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) is a program in which students spend part of their time in school and part of their time in industry as registered apprentices in one of Alberta's 50 designated trades.

Students enrolled in the Registered Apprenticeship Program are paid by their employers. Students enrolled in Work Experience Courses may be paid by the employer at the employer's discretion.

Information about RAP may be obtained from the Curriculum Branch or from the nearest Apprenticeship and Industry Training Office.

Green Certificate Program

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/bySubject/green/green.asp

The Green Certificate Program for senior high school students allows students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 to participate in an agriculture-related apprenticeship, earn credits, and complete the Technician Level of a Green Certificate in any one of seven specializations. Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, and Alberta Learning jointly administer the Green Certificate Program. Information about the Green Certificate Program is available from Alberta Learning, Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, and local senior high schools situated in agricultural regions of Alberta.

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Locally Developed Courses

School boards may develop and/or acquire courses that are innovative and responsive to local and individual needs. Contact your local school board to get information about locally developed courses available in your jurisdiction.

Educational Experiences Outside of Regular School Programs

Some educational experiences outside of regular school programs may be eligible for senior high school credits; e.g., music courses completed by private study, through Conservatory Canada, the Royal Conservatory of Toronto or Mount Royal College, Calgary. Consult the student's school for further information.

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Transitions from Senior High School into Work and Further Learning

Preparing for life and work is a complex process that begins in the early years of schooling and continues throughout our lives. Alberta schools are taking an active role—along with parents and the community—in helping students move successfully from senior high school to further studies and/or the workplace.

To help prepare for their transition, students are encouraged to build on the career planning done in junior high school, and to develop a comprehensive career portfolio. They should investigate several work and learning opportunities and prepare several transition scenarios.

All senior high school courses can assist students in career planning through helping them develop their personal management skills—essential/employability skills—explore learning and work options, and contribute to their career portfolio. Some programs that focus specifically on career development include: Career and Life Management, Career and Technology Studies and Work Experience 15–25–35. The Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate Program, and Integrated Occupational Program also help students make a successful transition into the workplace.

Many senior high schools organize special career development activities, such as mentoring, job shadowing, portfolios and annual career fairs. Senior high schools encourage students to develop a career plan. Plans should be updated annually and signed by parents and principals. Students typically develop a personal portfolio, including a résumé, and may use a career planner such as the *Senior High School Student Learning–Career Planner* developed by Alberta Learning.

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/cardir_sr.pdf
[pdf version]

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/SHPlan.doc
[word version]

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/k_12/curriculum/cardir.pdf

The *Student Learning–Career Planner Information Booklet* and the *Senior High School Student Learning–Career Planner* are useful tools for Alberta's secondary school teachers and guidance counsellors as they work with students, parents and other key partners to help students move through the career planning process. The information booklet and junior high school planner are available on the Alberta Learning Web site or for purchase from the LRC.

http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca

Information on occupations and post-secondary programs is available on the Alberta Learning Information Service Web site through school career centres or counselling offices.

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Post-secondary Learning

Learning opportunities beyond senior high school include: university, college, technical institutes, apprenticeship, technical training programs and on-the-job training.

At each senior high school grade level, students select courses to meet graduation requirements and build toward their future plans for further education and work/career goals. A senior high school diploma does not guarantee entrance into post-secondary programs.

School staff are available to assist students in applying to post-secondary institutions, including the three Catholic colleges in Alberta. **Students are responsible for becoming aware of post-secondary entrance requirements, application procedures and deadlines. It is also the student's responsibility to request that an official Alberta Learning transcript be sent to post-secondary institutions.** Request forms are available at schools and should be sent well in advance of application deadlines.

Some post-secondary programs recognize senior high school courses for advanced standing, credit or preferred entrance.

Alexander Rutherford Scholarship

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/backtoschool/psastudassist.asp#scholarships

Students can earn a maximum of $2500 toward their post-secondary education through Alexander Rutherford Scholarships. These scholarships are awarded to students when they enroll in post-secondary institutions and have earned an 80% average in five high school courses, one of which must be a language arts course, at each grade level. Students earn $400 in Grade 10, $800 in Grade 11 and $1300 in Grade 12, if they meet the following criteria.

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12

Average 80% or higher in **five** subjects:
• English Language Arts 10-1, 10-2 or Français 10, Français 13
• at least **two** of the following:
  ◦ Applied Mathematics 10 or Pure Mathematics 10
  ◦ Science 10
  ◦ Social Studies 10
  ◦ any one language other than the one used above at the Grade 10 level
• any **two** other subjects at the Grade 10 level, including those listed above
	Average 80% or higher in **five** subjects:
	• English Language Arts 20-1, 20-2, or Français 20, Français 23
	• at least **two** of the following:
	  ◦ Applied Mathematics 20 or Pure Mathematics 20
	  ◦ Science 20
	  ◦ Biology 20
	  ◦ Chemistry 20
	  ◦ Physics 20
	  ◦ Social Studies 20
	  ◦ any one language other than the one used above at the Grade 11 level
	• any **two** other subjects at the Grade 11 level, including those listed above
		Average 80% or higher in **five** subjects:
		• English Language Arts 30, or Français 30
		• at least **four** of the following:
		  ◦ Applied Mathematics 30
		  ◦ Pure Mathematics 30
		  ◦ Mathematics 31
		  ◦ Science 30
		  ◦ Biology 30
		  ◦ Chemistry 30
		  ◦ Physics 30
		  ◦ Social Studies 30
		  ◦ any one language other than the one used above at the Grade 12 level (3000 series courses)

CTS Courses. Three 1-credit courses can be combined and used as an option at the Grade 10 and/or Grade 11 level. • CTS courses at the 1000-level are considered as Grade 10 level; at the 2000-level are considered as Grade 11 level. • To be combined, all courses must be from the same level. • The average mark of the three courses may be used as one of the other subjects at the appropriate level.		**Note**: CTS courses cannot be used at the Grade 12 level.

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Students typically apply for an Alexander Rutherford Scholarship in the spring of their Grade 12 year, and the award is paid during the first semester of post-secondary studies. Individual school boards, schools, post-secondary institutions, businesses and community organizations also offer scholarships. Many Catholic groups and associations also make scholarships available to Catholic high school graduates. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to explore additional scholarship sources to help pay for post-secondary education, such as Fellowships for Full-time Post-Secondary Studies in French.

RAP Scholarship

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/backtoschool/psastudassist.asp

The Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board Registered Apprenticeship Program Scholarship, known as the RAP Scholarship, annually recognizes the academic and trade-related accomplishments of up to 50 high school students who are taking part in the Registered Apprenticeship Program. This scholarship will provide $1000 each to continue into a regular apprenticeship program after the completion of high school.

To qualify for the scholarship, RAP apprentices must:

- plan to continue into a regular apprenticeship program
- achieve an Alberta high school diploma or certificate of achievement
- have completed a minimum of 250 hours of work experience in RAP
- get a recommendation from an employer, supervisor or journeyman stating that they should continue in the apprenticeship program with the goal of becoming a Certified Journeyman.

Additionally, apprentices will be asked to provide:

- a personal statement indicating why he or she is a "good fit" for a career in a trade
- a senior high school transcript
- additional comments from an employer, supervisor or journeyman.

http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/scholarships.

The RAP Scholarship is administered through the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund. Application forms are available from Apprenticeship and Industry Training Offices and the Students Finance Board.

Financial Assistance

http://www.learning.gov.ab.ca/backtoschool/psastudassist.asp

Students attending post-secondary institutions may be eligible for a student loan. Information on student loans can be obtained from a school counsellor or by contacting the Students Finance Board, Alberta Learning, which has offices in both Edmonton and Calgary. Students may also inquire at Apprenticeship offices throughout Alberta.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Question: *What is a credit?*
Answer: One credit is equivalent to the learner outcomes that most students can achieve in 25 hours of instruction. Students in Alberta are required to earn 100 credits to qualify for an Alberta High School Diploma or 80 credits for a Certificate of Achievement.

Question: *Do students have spares?*
Answer: Students may choose to have study periods in senior high school depending upon their school's policies/guidelines. It is very possible for students to complete their senior high school diploma successfully and to have spares, particularly in their Grade 12 year, but planning for a full schedule is suggested.

Question: *How do students know which courses to take to prepare for post-secondary education?*
Answer: Students who have identified their post-secondary plans should consult their school counsellors and a calendar from the post-secondary institution of their choice to make sure they have the necessary prerequisite senior high school courses. Students should check each year for current information. Students are also encouraged to visit the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) site at <http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca>.

Question: *Are there accredited Catholic Universities and Colleges in Alberta?*
Answer: Yes, there are three: St. Joseph's College at University of Alberta, Edmonton; Newman Theological College, Edmonton; St. Mary's College, Calgary.

Question: *Can Religious Studies courses be applied to entrance requirements for college and/or university?*
Answer: Credits for Religious Studies 15, 25 and 35 are accepted and applied to a student's high school diploma requirements. Some college/university programs also accept Religious Studies 35 as a prerequisite for certain entry level courses. Specific details may be clarified when registering at the college/university of your choice.

Question: *Are tutors available?*
Answer: The best source of help for students is their classroom teacher. If extra tutoring is required, this is usually arranged privately at parental expense. Schools may be able to help by providing information about tutors.

Question: *Do students need to take all courses in the same sequence?*
Answer: Students may take a variety of courses. They are restricted only by the prerequisites required for each course.

Question: *Is a second language a requirement for university entrance?*
Answer: This is not a general requirement for Alberta universities. However, a second language can be used as an academic subject for entrance to several programs and in calculations for scholarships. It may also be used to calculate the academic average. Certain post-secondary faculties may require a second language. Students should consult the post-secondary institution of their choice regarding entrance requirements.

Question: *What happens if a Grade 12 student is short of credits after the first semester?*
Answer: It may be possible for such a student to complete the diploma requirements by taking extra courses, an extra semester, summer school, night school or distance learning. Please consult the student's school for assistance.

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Question: *Can a student return to senior high school to complete a high school diploma or upgrade courses following Grade 12?*
Answer: All students who are 19 or under as of September 1 of a school year have the right to attend school. School boards can designate specific schools for returning students.

Question: *Can parents request that their children have a particular teacher for a course?*
Answer: Most schools attempt to accommodate individual requests but are sometimes restricted because of enrollment and scheduling concerns.

Question: *How can I best assure that my child will have a positive experience in senior high school?*
Answer: Parents and teachers share a commitment to lifelong learning. Ongoing communication among parents, teachers and students is one way of ensuring success.

Question: *What does it mean to challenge a course?*
Answer: Students who believe that they already possess the knowledge, skills and attitudes for a senior high school course and are ready to demonstrate that achievement may ask the school about how they can receive credits for the course without actually taking it. Usually, a course challenge will apply only to a course that is at a higher level than a student has already achieved in a course sequence, or is at a similar level in an alternative course sequence. Students who successfully complete a course challenge of the school-awarded mark component of a diploma examination course must write the diploma examination to be eligible for a final course mark and credits in that course.

Question: *Are there provisions for special needs students writing a diploma examination?*
Answer: Yes. Contact the local school.

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